

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/623,494

Applicant(s)

KAJINO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

James Pilkington

3682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 11/16/06.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5 and 7.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (.as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/16/06
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.


RICHARD RIDLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re clm 1, the prior art taken as a whole, does not teach nor render obvious the claimed combination wherein comprising a shock absorbing device in a starter comprises a plurality of first friction plates all of which are provide stationary relative to each other and said housing and a plurality of second friction plates all of which are provided stationary relative to each other and to the internal gear with a transmitting section interposed between the second friction plates and the internal gear.

Bolz, USP 6,409,622 B1 shows a plurality of first friction plates (35i) all of which are provide stationary relative to each other and a plurality of second friction plates (35ii) all of which are provided stationary relative to each other and to the internal gear (3i) with a transmitting section interposed between the second friction plates and the internal gear. Bolz does not disclose that the first friction plates are stationary relative to the housing as claimed since the first plates of Bolz are attached to carries (40) which move inside the housing.

Imamura, USP 4,635,489 discloses a shock absorbing device in a starter comprises a plurality of first friction plates (24, 26) all of which are provide stationary relative to said housing and a plurality of second friction plates (23, 25) all of which are

provided stationary relative to the internal gear with a transmitting section interposed between the second friction plates and the internal gear. Imamura does not disclose that the first friction plates are stationary relative to one another and the housing and that the second friction plates are stationary relative to one another and the internal gear.

Prittie, USP 2,679,170 shows a plurality of first friction plates (15,16,17) all of which are provide stationary relative to each other and the housing (1) and a plurality of second friction plates (18,18',19,19') all of which are provided stationary relative to each other. Prittie does not disclose that the second friction plates are stationary relative to an internal gear since the second friction plates of Prittie make the internal gear.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Pilkington whose telephone number is (571) 272-5052. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on (571) 272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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12/1/06



RICHARD RIDLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER